

The Northfield Press

"The Only Newspaper in the World Devoted to the Interests of the Town of Northfield, Massachusetts"

Vol. I, No. 10

Northfield, Massachusetts, Friday, January 4, 1957

Five Cents Per Copy

FIRE DESTROYS JOHNSON HOME

Fire destroyed the \$8,000 two-story frame home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Johnson just north of Wanamaker Park yesterday afternoon as firemen from four fire trucks chopped through ice to get to a water supply to quench the flames in 10-above-zero temperatures.

No injuries were reported, but traffic was rerouted to Rte. 16 because the intense flames burned through electric wires leading across Rte. 10 into the Johnson home. While firemen fought the blaze, live wires lay across the highway, impeding their actions.

The fire is said to have started from a defective furnace and was reported to the Northfield fire department by one of the children, who also called Mrs. Johnson who was at her work at The Northfield and Chateau.

The Northfield fire department was called at about 1:40 and 14 men and two trucks were rushed to the blaze immediately. One fire truck from Hinsdale and one from Winchester came to the assistance of Northfield firefighters.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson and their nine children purchased and moved into the house only two months ago, and Mr. Johnson returned to the veterans' hospital in Northampton Dec. 26 and was in that hospital at the time of the fire.

All the Johnsons' furniture, clothing and Christmas gifts were burned.

A collection of clothing and money was started yesterday for the Johnson family. Contributions may be given to Mrs. Carroll Miller or Wallace (Bud) Sterns.

The Johnson children range in age from one year old to 13 years old.

The house was fully insured and personal property partially insured.

The Johnson home was known as the "Octagon House" and was the birthplace of Dr. Francis L. Hutchins, former president of Berea College. For forty years Mr. and Mrs. John Anton de Veer owned the Octagon House.

Noted Evangelists Conduct Rally

Featured soloist at the rally conducted by Jack Wyrzten last night at Northfield Town Hall was Anton Marco, former leading baritone for the San Carlo Opera company.

These rallies are conducted by Mr. Wyrzten in an effort to challenge young people and lead them to follow a Christian pattern of living.

This was the first of a series of six rallies to be held on consecutive Thursday evenings. Other rallies will be held Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31 and Feb. 7.

Guest at Mr. Wyrzten's rally next Thursday will be Redd Harper, who starred in "the world's first Christian western" — Mr. Texas.

Austin C. Phelps

Austin C. Phelps of Pomona, Calif., former resident of Northfield, died New Year's Day.

While riding a bicycle, Mr. Phelps was struck from the rear by an automobile and died four hours later.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Florence Phelps; and ten children — John E. Phelps of Springfield, Richard C. of Bernardston, Stanley of N. Walpole, N. H., Dorothy of California, Charles A., Robert, and Mrs. Elizabeth Bolton of Northfield, Mrs. Ruth Patnaude of California, and George Phelps of Elko, Nev.

Burial will be in Pomona, Calif.



Steam and smoke rise from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Johnson which was demolished by flames yesterday at 2 p.m. All the Johnson's furniture, clothing, Christmas baskets and gifts were destroyed by the fire. They plan to stay temporarily at The Northfield Hotel, where Mrs. Johnson is employed.

Elman To Give Concert Here

Mischa Elman, concert violinist, will perform a varied program including compositions by Tartini, Beethoven, Bruch, Debussy, Tchaikovsky, and Saint-Saens in Northfield Auditorium, East Northfield, at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5.

If tickets have not already been purchased, they may be obtained at the door.

Robert Colton Dies Suddenly At Work

Robert Colton of East Northfield died suddenly while at his work at the road project on Rte. 2A in Turners Falls Wednesday morning. He was an engineer with the Massachusetts Department of Public Works.

Mr. Colton was born in Butte, Montana, Aug. 8, 1904, and served with the U. S. Army in World War I. While with the marines following that war, he was stationed in the Far East and spent three years with the American Embassy in China.

He was a navy veteran of World War II.

During their married life the Coltons lived in Greenfield, Boston, Springfield, Oklahoma City and Northfield.

Mr. Colton was a member of the Baptist Temple in Oklahoma City and the American and National Philatelic Societies. He was president-elect of the Franklin County Stamp Club. For 20 years he was an active member of the Northfield Grange. He belonged to the Connecticut Valley Pomona Grange, the State and National Grange. He was overseer of the Northfield Grange and chairman of the bird and conservation committee of the Pomona Grange at the time of his death.

Active in Boy Scout work, Mr. Colton was scoutmaster while living in Oklahoma City and Greenfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Colton returned only Monday from a visit to Oklahoma City, where they visited their daughter, Mrs. Wayne Estes.

The Rev. Paul Bubar will officiate at funeral services to be held at Kidder Funeral Home at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Mr. Colton is survived by his wife, Dr. Florence Colton; his daughter, Mrs. Katharine Estes of Oklahoma City, and three grandchildren.

Social Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Stange and their daughter, Carolyn, went to Boston Sunday to visit Mrs. Stange's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Bruhm, in Medford. They returned here Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Scholar of Old Wendell Rd. became the parents of a daughter Dec. 30. Mrs. Scholar is in Brattleboro Memorial hospital.

Lawrence Quinlan, former Northfield postmaster, who is recuperating at home after a recent illness, was presented a money tree by friends during the holidays.

The ordination of Robert Condit Harvey was announced by his parents. The Reverend Mr. Harvey was ordained Dec. 21 in the Cathedral Church of St. James in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. James Neigh, North Lane, and their two children visited Mr. Neigh's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Neigh in Ithaca, N. Y., last weekend. They returned Jan. 1.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Taber, formerly of Northfield, are now residing in Stockton, Calif., within 400 miles of their son. Mr. Taber, who taught science at Northfield Seminary, wrote that he is delighted to see and read The Northfield Press again.

David Reynolds, fiancé of Miss Joan Morrow, plans to reside at the Edward M. Powell home after Jan. 7. He will begin teaching at Northfield School for Girls immediately.

Six large cartons of clothing and blankets for Hungarian Relief have been shipped to New York by the Congregational Fellowship. The Fellowship plans another clothing collection soon.

John Randall's colored slides of Operation Deepfreeze will be shown at the Brotherhood meeting.

Dr. Edward Fairbank, who retired from active service in India and for many years lived in the house now occupied by the Livingstons, sends his Christmas greetings from the home for retired missionaries at 138 Hancock St., Auburndale, Mass.

Richard Neuendorffer is working for the Electric Boat division of General Dynamics in New London, and his wife, Mary Helen (Moore) is taking courses in English Literature at Connecticut College for Women. The Neuendorffers own a cottage on the Ridge near her parents, the Robert Moores.

Rev. and Mrs. Lawrence L. Dur-

Continued on Page Three

Dickinson Library Adds 505 New Books In '56

At Town Hall

Any articles for the Town Warrant should be in the hands of the Selectmen by Jan. 11, the Selectmen announced at their meeting Wednesday. No articles will be added after that date, they stated.

Kenneth Miller, highway superintendent, was congratulated on the excellent job he has done in removing the year's heavy snows and sanding roads during the snow season by the Selectmen.

A discussion of the Town Warrant concluded the Selectmen's meeting.

Two Games Scheduled For Northfield High

Northfield High School's basketball team will play Winchendon High at Winchendon tonight. Bus transportation is available for some students with the team.

The team will play Powers Institute at Bernardston Tuesday evening.

Church Notes

Unitarian Church

The Evening Alliance will meet at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 9.

The Afternoon Alliance will meet at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10.

A public card party will be held in the church vestry at 8 p.m., Jan. 15.

Trinitarian Church

Officers and teachers of the church school will hold their January meeting in the church vestry at 7:45 p.m. Monday, Jan. 7.

A brotherhood supper will be served at the church by Hubert Eastman and his men's committee at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 9. Warren Randall will show slides recently taken at the South Pole.

The Women's Guild will meet to hear guest speaker the Rev. Robert Sandercock, chaplain at Northfield School for Girls, at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10.

The program will be arranged by the social action committee which includes: Miss Helen

Continued on Page Two

The library has added 505 books to its shelves during the year 1956, making a total of 14,176.

The library purchased 169 adult books and 88 juvenile books during the year. There were 248 books for both adults and juveniles, given to the library by friends.

Some of the most recent additions are: Ashton, Half Crown House; Cadell, I Love a Lass; Ogilvie, No Evil Angel; Streeter, Merry Christmas, Mr. Baxter; Lawrence, The Empty Nest; Worley, The White Cherry Tree; Miller, Sing One Song; Barney, The White Dove; Corbett, The Head of Apollo; Linnington, Mary in Command; Buckmaster, And Walk in Love.

In non-fiction we have: The Living of These Days, the autobiography of Harry Emerson Fosdick; Sharp—Three Saints and a Sinner, the story of Julia Ward Howe, her sisters, Louise and Annie and brother Samuel; The Home Ranch by Moody, the author of Little Britches; Armstrong, Gloves, Glory and God; My Lord, What a Morning, the autobiography of Marian Anderson.

Circus Theme Marks Banquet

The Father's and Sons' Banquet at the Unitarian Laymen's League Men's Club was attended by about 60 persons Wednesday evening.

A turkey dinner was served and after-dinner entertainment was provided by Ray Bickford of Bernardston, better known as "Rayford, the Clown."

Rayford opened his act by donning the costume and make-up of a clown before the audience and then told of the history of clowning.

Carrying out the circus theme, the church vestry was decorated with festive colored balloons and colored twisted streamers were used to give a circus tent effect to the room.

Dinner was served by Mr. and Mrs. Ray and Arthur Knapp and Mrs. Fred Caldwell.

The Northfield Press

"The only newspaper in the world devoted to the interests of the Town of Northfield, Massachusetts"

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Volume I, No. 10 Page Two Friday, January 4, 1957

NORTHFIELD

An old New England village.
Once leader of the van
That northward pushed along the hills—
An outpost of the Puritan.

A battleground of olden days,
Where red men made their stand
And twice drove back the alien white
That settled on their land.

Born when the sturdy pioneer
The valley pathways trod,
His courage backed by flintlock crude
His future left with God.

A homeland for the wanderer
That came from oversea
Envisioning with faith steadfast
A race of men made free.

A village resting by a stream
Whose waters never know
A fairer vale nor friendlier hills
In all their southward flow.

Old houses, loved by many men,
Along a broad and peaceful street
Where high above the shadowed lawns
The arms of branching elm trees meet.

Old days, old years, old memories
That nothing ever stills.
The voice of History echoes on
Across the Northfield hills.

John Phelps
14 Fruit St.,
Milford, Mass.

Church Notes

Continued from Page One

Handy, chairman; Mrs. Milford Atwood, Mrs. Henry Prescott and Mrs. Mildred Kimmens.

St. Patrick

Confessions will be heard from 4 p.m. until 5:15 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5.

The Holy Name Society will meet in the church basement at 8 p.m. Jan. 7.

St. Patrick's Guild will meet in the church basement at 8 p.m. Jan. 9.

Advent Christian Church, South Vernon

Good Neighbors will meet at the home of Mrs. Wallace Stange at 8 p.m. Jan. 7.

Prayer meeting will be held at the church at 7:45 p.m. Jan. 9.

Northfield Baptist

A prayer meeting and Bible study group will meet at the church at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 11.

Gospel Services

No. 3 Community Club

The Sing and Bring Club will meet this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. with a visiting group from the Colrain Baptist church.

Midweek prayer meeting and Bible study will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Browning, Sr., this evening at 7:30 p.m.

The Sing and Bring Club will broadcast a program over Station WHAI from 10:05 to 10:30, Saturday, Jan. 5.

UNITARIAN CHURCH

Rev. ROBERT SLATER, Pastor
Mrs. KENNETH MILLER,
Supt. of Sunday School

11 a.m. Worship Service
(Northfield Unitarian Church will combine with Bernardston Unitarian Church for services to be broadcast from Bernardston over Radio Station WHAI.)

NO. 3 COMMUNITY CLUB GOSPEL SERVICES

Guest Pastor, Rev. ARTHUR GREEN
11 a.m.—Worship service
12 noon—Sunday school
6:15—Young people's meeting
7:30—Evening service

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ST. PATRICK
Father HENRY McKEON, Pastor
Rev. ANTHONY RZASSA, Curate
8:30 a.m.—Mass
(Sunday School immediately after mass.)

NORTHFIELD BAPTIST

Rev. PAUL BUBAR, Pastor
10 a.m.—Sunday school
11—Morning Worship
7:30—Evening service

RUSSELL SAGE CHAPEL

11 a.m.—Worship service
(The sermon will be preached by Dr. David Weinland, Faith Congregational church, Springfield.)

MT. HERMON SCHOOL

10:30 a.m.—Worship service
(Dr. Sidney Lovett, chaplain of Yale University, will be guest preacher.)

TRINITARIAN CHURCH

Rev. JOSEPH REEVES, Pastor
Mrs. F. H. MOSES,
Director of Christian Education
9:45 a.m.—Church School
11—Worship Service
6:30—Pilgrim Fellowship
7:45—Senior choir rehearsal

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Social and Personal News Notes of the Northfield Area

Continued from Page One
gin and two children came to spend Christmas with his mother, Mrs. Russell Durgin and her mother, Mrs. Lawrence Lazelle.

The Womens Guild of the Mt. Hermon Church sponsored a square dance in Social Hall on the campus. Many boys and girls from Northfield attended.

Mrs. W. C. Tyler has left South

Vernon for her winter home in Homestead, Fla. She stopped over in Baltimore to see her daughter's family, the James Reibers.

A daughter was born Dec. 26 to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie R. Hicks, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmont Hicks of S. Vernon.

Lt. (j.g.) Philip Huber and his wife spent Christmas weekend with his parents, the Fred Hubers. In the middle of October they moved to their new home in Jamestown, R. I. Lt. Huber is a "frogman."

Mr. and Mrs. Aiden French and three daughters came from Greensboro, N. C., to spend a week with his sister and family, the Philip Holtons.

May Cook and Nancy Mann were home from Simmons College for the holidays.

At Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, a son was born Dec. 23 to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick King of South Vernon.

At the Christmas program of the Advent Christian Church a gift of money was given to the pastor, Everett Moore, and his wife.

Peter Haack has been visiting his parents while on leave from Monatuck Point where he is stationed with the Air Force.

Mary Ellen Chase, who plans to speak to the Ladies Literary Society in April will spend two months in Cambridge, England, working on her next novel due for publication in the fall. It is to be called, "The Edge of Darkness."

Mrs. Mildred Coe Rapp, whose father founded *The Northfield Press*, has given to the high school from which she graduated in 1915, a subscription to "Things of Science."

Donald Loos, who has been in Japan and Korea for over a year returned to his wife's home in Ohio, Dec. 18, and saw his second son for the first time. He and his family went to his parents' home in Princeton, N. J., for New Year's.

Ann Sandercoc, daughter of Chaplain and Mrs. Robert Sandercoc of The Northfield School for Girls, was born at 11:45 p.m. Dec. 31 in Franklin County Hospital.

Miss Johanna O'Brien, 95, has lived at the home of the Philip Holtons for the past four years. At Christmas time her niece, Miss Kathleen O'Brien, who works at the Munson State Hospital, came to see her, and stayed at the Holtons'.

Miss Barbara Clough has been visiting her mother in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Robert L. Goldsmith and Priscilla Mason of Saxtons River, Vt., were married Dec. 31 by Rev. Arthur J. Green at his home, 51 Main St. Witnesses were Mrs. Green and Mr. and Mrs. Harris of Brattleboro.

The Homer Brownings Sr. had a Watch Night Service Dec. 31 at their home. Wedding pictures of Elizabeth and Phillip of England in 1941 were shown; refreshments served, and for half an hour before and after midnight there was a religious service conducted by Rev. Arthur J. Green. Mr. and Mrs. Wynne C. Keever returned from Florida Dec. 31, picking up Mrs. J. W. Reeves in Augusta, Ga. They visited the Birdsalls in Florida.

The Fortnightly will meet in Alexander Hall Friday at 3 p.m. and be entertained by Carlton L'Hommiedieu with music and William Morrow with book reviews.

Mrs. David Hammond will resume her work in Talcott Library of The Northfield School for Girls Friday of this week.

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WERE 55.00— NOW 41.25
WERE 65.00— NOW 48.75
WERE 75.00— NOW 56.25
WERE 85.00— NOW 63.75
WERE 125.00— NOW 93.75

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35.00 Wool Tweed SUITS, velvet trim. Brown & black 24.95
1.99 HANDBAGS. Envelope type. Red, black, brown 1.00
plus tax
25.00 to 30.00 COATS. Tweeds, checks, pastel fleece. Sharp-
ly reduced. 9 to 16 17.84
40.00 to 60.00 COATS. Extraordinary values. All wool and
cashmere. Knobby wools. Perfect tailoring. Sizes 7 to
18—14½ to 22½ 26.99
20.00 CAR COATS. Alpaca lined. Tan, navy, red with hood
collar 12.79
10.95 Pennant SKI PANTS. Navy, black and gray gabardine,
rayon acetate and nylon. Short, reg., long 8.99
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The Friendly Store Down On The Hill

Northfield Farms

Mrs. Laurence Hammond,

Word has been received that a son was born Dec. 22 to Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Collis, former residents now residing in San Diego, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Teofil Dymersky of Northampton, former residents, are the maternal grandparents.

The Ladies Benevolent Society meeting has been postponed until Jan. 9.

The Men's Club of the Unitarian Church will hold a public card party in the church basement Jan. 15. Prizes for cards and door will be awarded.

Robert Scott has returned to the University of Massachusetts after spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Scott. He is in his freshman year.

The Bookmobile will be at the Field Library at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Parsons have purchased the Sylvester farm on the Northfield-Hinsdale Road, Hinsdale, N. H. They plan to move in this month.

Rachel Parsons has returned to the University of Massachusetts after spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Parsons.

No. 4 Community Club will meet Thursday, Jan. 10 at 8:00.

Mrs. Florence Borthwick left Thursday to visit her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Brocklesby and family in Shelton, Conn., for a few days.

Nancy Stratton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stratton, underwent a tonsillectomy Saturday, Dec. 29, at Farren hospital and returned to her home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hermon Browning and three children left Dec. 26 for a trip to Florida where they visited friends in Orlando and Fort Pierce. They spent three days at Fort Pierce where they said the temperature averaged 78 degrees. They returned home Thursday, Jan. 3, to a 2-above-zero-degree temperature.

4

NORTHFIELD PRESS

Friday, January 4, 1957

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1955 PONTIAC STAR CHIEF, 4-dr., radio &
heater, hydro., 2-tone, 17,000 miles **\$2295**

1955 MERCURY MONTEREY, hardtop, ra-
dio and heater, Merc-o-matic drive **\$2195**

1955 PLYMOUTH BELVEDERE, hardtop, ra-
dio and heater, fluid drive **\$1895**

1954 PONTIAC CHIEFTAIN, 2-dr. sedan,
r. & h., Syncromesh transmission **\$1395**

1953 DeSOTO FIREDOME 8, 4-dr. sedan,
radio and heater, fluid drive **\$1295**

1951 CHEVROLET, radio and heater, 4-dr.,
210 deluxe series **\$595**

1953 PONTIAC DELUXE 2-DR. SEDAN, radio and heater,
Syncromesh transmis'n, extra clean.
A CASSIDY SPECIAL at **\$1195**

STATEMENT OF

THE VERMONT BANK
AND TRUST COMPANY

BRATTLEBORO — BENNINGTON

At the close of business, December 31, 1956

RESOURCES

Cash and Due from Banks	\$ 3,165,813.60
United States Government Obligations	3,065,050.02
Municipal Obligations	1,483,638.09
Other Bonds and Stocks	126,840.00
Loans and Discounts	8,767,745.61
Other Real Estate Owned	26,917.95
Banking House	83,784.50
Vault, Furniture and Fixtures	69,323.87
Other Assets	15,692.86
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	\$16,804,806.50

LIABILITIES

Common Stock	\$ 672,000.00
Surplus	520,000.00
Reserves	200,000.00
Dividend Payable January 15, 1957	25,200.00
Undivided Profits	273,992.38
Deposits	15,113,614.12
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	\$16,804,806.50

Member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
and The Federal Reserve System